

World Brief

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Portugal's PSD loses half strength
LISBON, April 4 (R)—Portugal's second largest party, the Social Democrats (PSD), lost half its parliamentary strength with the resignation of 37 of its 73 deputies in a vote on the resignation of the government. A spokesman for the party said they would stay on in the 263-seat assembly as independents. It was the biggest blow for the Social Democrats and its leader, Oporto lawyer Francisco Sa Carneiro, 44, since the party was founded soon after the 1974 revolution. The split in the party into two had been on the cards since Dr. Sa Carneiro's controversial decision to abstain in last month's vote on the 1979 budget. The party's abstention led to a narrow defeat of the government of Prime Minister Carlos Mota Faria. Five PSD deputies defied the party whip and voted in favour of the government. A larger group, estimated at 36, stayed from the assembly to show their disapproval of the party.

JORDAN TIMES

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جورن تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية «الراي»

Centrists win majority in Spain

MADRID, April 4 (R)—After Spain's first democratic municipal elections for 48 years, the left-wing opposition today dominated major cities. But the centrist government party won the majority of seats throughout the country, according to almost complete results from yesterday's polling. If the socialists and communists back joint candidates, which seems likely, there will be left-wing mayors in Madrid, Barcelona and Valencia, the three biggest cities. Andalusian nationalists held the balance of power in Seville, Spain's fourth city, while nationalist parties swept the board in three of the four provincial capitals of the troubled northern Basque country. Interior Minister Rodolfo Martin Villa, announcing the results, said there was a close correlation between the outcome of the municipal vote and the March 1 parliamentary elections.

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Begin reports on Cairo visit

Outline with Sadat opened, border adjustment agreed

JERUSALEM, (Agencies)—A hotline link will be opened between Prime Minister Menachem Begin in occupied Jerusalem and President Anwar Sadat in Cairo, the Israeli leader said today. The link will be used to report to the Egyptian peace treaty, which was signed yesterday, to seal the Egyptian peace treaty. The link will be used to report to the Egyptian peace treaty, which was signed yesterday, to seal the Egyptian peace treaty.

that Israel will band back to Egypt on May 26 the town of Al Arish, capital of the Sinai Desert border region. The following day, Mr. Begin will visit Al Arish and make a joint statement with President Sadat on opening borders which have been closed between the two countries by 30 years of war. Mr. Begin said the announcement would concern two main points. First was the opening of a direct air corridor between Israel and Egypt. "More important," Mr. Begin went on, "will be the opening of the border between Egypt and Israel for the free flow of civilian traffic from Israel to Egypt on a reciprocal basis."

Begin denies intention to resign

APRIL 4 (R)—Egyptian Prime Minister Mustapha Khalil, on Tuesday after two days of illness, has denied rumours that he will resign. Mr. Khalil said he had no intention of resigning and would continue to perform his official functions during his illness. He said he was not planning to resign and would continue to perform his official functions during his illness. He said he was not planning to resign and would continue to perform his official functions during his illness.

and Egypt. "More important," Mr. Begin went on, "will be the opening of the border between Egypt and Israel for the free flow of civilian traffic from Israel to Egypt on a reciprocal basis."

Mr. Begin disclosed a border adjustment to let withdrawing Israeli forces keep control of their main laundry in the Sinai Desert. He said: "A certain adjustment will be made to the Al Arish-Ras Mohammed line between Neot Sinai and Al Arish."

The Al Arish-Ras Mohammed line marks the extent of the interim Israeli withdrawal which must be completed by next December. Handing back the rest of Sinai will take three years.

King rejects treaty as 'step in the wrong direction'

AMMAN, April 4 (JNA)—His Majesty King Hussein declared today that "the separate peace treaty between Israel and Egypt is a step in the wrong direction."

In an interview with Independent Television News (ITN) broadcast tonight the King expressed the conviction that "Israel has a goal which it has for so long endeavoured to achieve, and that is the isolation of Egypt from the rest of the Arab World, and the entrenching of its occupation in the rest of the Arab territories."

His Majesty further stated that Israeli Premier Menachem Begin "was very clear concerning the so-called self-rule, which does not differ much from his previous plans, which we had already rejected."

The Israeli Prime Minister was "unequivocal when he said that the so-called self-rule applies to the people of the occupied territories and not the land itself which he considers Israel including Jerusalem."

Answering a question on what he thought of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, the King said: "I am not satisfied with all that has happened, and the days will prove that he was wrong in handling this very important issue in the Middle East."

Bhutto hanged

ISLAMABAD, April 4 (Agencies)—Former Pakistani Premier Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, once one of the world's major statesmen, was hanged like a common criminal today and buried within hours after a virtual pauper's funeral.

Mr. Bhutto, 51, was taken to the gallows in Rawalpindi's century-old district prison at the unusually early hour of 2 a.m. Most executions are carried out just before dawn.

At about 4.00 a.m. a military truck drove into the prison under heavy escort. It came out shortly afterwards and all traffic was stopped as the truck sped to a nearby airport. A special aircraft then carried the body to Sukkur airport in Sindh.

From there it was taken by helicopter to a cemetery near Mr. Bhutto's farm at Naudero, 21 kilometres from Larkana. By 10:30 a.m. (0530 GMT) the burial was complete.

Pakistan Radio said funeral prayers were offered at the graveside by family members, including two uncles. But Mr. Bhutto's Iranian-born wife Nusrat and his daughter Benazir were unable to be present as they were under house arrest at a police compound outside Rawalpindi.

It was a sad end for the debonair figure whose oratory had dazzled audiences at home and at international forums abroad. After 12 months in the death cell where he was sent after conviction on

charges of ordering the murder of an opponent, Mr. Bhutto was reduced to a virtual skeleton. (See obituary on page 6)

The final disappearance of Mr. Bhutto from the political scene could bring immediate problems for the country's army rulers. Bhutto supporters had predicted a storm of protest if the execution was carried out—a view shared by Mr. Bhutto himself.

In a "last testament" written in his death cell months ago, Mr. Bhutto said: "If I am assassinated on the gallows...there will be turmoil and turbulence, conflict and conflagration."

There was stunned initial reaction today as the news spread quickly throughout Pakistan. Some cars were stoned in Lahore, but the country appeared generally calm.

"I never really believed they would hang him. He was such a nice man", said one young hotel worker.

"It's our big trouble—like Iran", commented a tough taxi driver. Foreign diplomats said it was likely to take some time before anti-government demonstrations could be organised by Bhutto followers in Sindh, Karachi, Lahore and the northwest.

The execution went ahead despite appeals from world leaders for clemency. Many countries today expressed shock and sorrow at the hanging. Newspapers throughout the country, most of which produced special editions, described the ex-premier's last few hours before he was hanged. The newspapers said he was given a bath, allowed to shave off several weeks growth of straggly grey beard, and then told to sign his will. With his hands bound, he was then led to the gallows, looking around him as he was escorted there by prison officials, a senior army officer and a magistrate, the newspapers reported. The execution was carried out by Tara Masih, a Christian Pakistani who is the government's main hangman. He was paid 25 rupees (about \$2.50). Members of his family would be strong rallying points in general elections due to be held on Nov. 17, and a secret poll said to have been conducted by the army showed that the PPP would win such an election. A senior Pakistani government spokesman, Gen. Mujib, denied reports that the other four condemned men in the Bhutto conspiracy case had been hanged this morning.



Begin Nusrat Bhutto with their children.



The late Zulfikar Ali Bhutto (right) calling on President Zia-ul-Haq on 15 July 1977. (File AP wirephoto)

Shock, sorrow mark world's reaction to Bhutto execution

LONDON, April 4 (R)—Shock and sorrow marked the world's reaction to today's execution of Pakistani ex-Premier Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Former Indian Premier Indira Gandhi said: "The president of Pakistan has acted in defiance of world opinion."

In London, Mr. Bhutto's eldest son, 24-year-old Mir Bhutto, warned that "whoever is responsible for this murder is going to pay a very heavy price for it."

Prime Minister James Callaghan's office said the British premier said he deeply regretted that the death penalty was invoked.

U.S. officials said the Carter Administration believed that the political situation in Pakistan would have been best served if Mr. Bhutto had not been executed.

American Senator Clairborne Pell of Rhode Island, a senior Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, called the hanging "an atrocious action, one which, I think, shocks the sensibilities of civilised nations - of which, obviously, Pakistan is not one."

United Nations Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim said he deplored the decision by Pakistan's leaders to ignore appeals for Mr. Bhutto and expressed deep regret that the ex-premier had been hanged.

French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing expressed his "deep emotion" at a cabinet meeting, his spokesman said.

Robert Badinter, a French lawyer who helped Mr. Bhutto's trial defence, described the execution as "a real political murder."

A spokesman for the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) in Geneva expressed shock and regret at the execution. He recalled that the Geneva-based independent body of lawyers had appealed last February to President Zia for clemency for Mr. Bhutto for humanitarian reasons and because of suspicion that his trial in Lahore was not conducted fairly.

Turkish Premier Bulent Ecevit expressed his sorrow over Mr. Bhutto's death and said his government was against the practice of punishing politicians in this way.

Mr. Suleyman Demirel, leader of Turkey's main opposition Justice Party, said "the execution of Mr. Bhutto was not a matter of the internal affairs of a country, but concerned the whole of humanity."

Amnesty International, the London-based human rights organisation, called on Pakistan to halt all executions. It said there were substantial legal and humanitarian grounds for granting clemency to the hundreds of Pakistani citizens being executed every year.

Regional Briefs

FURT, April 4 (R)—The postal bomb which exploded at the airport yesterday injuring 10 airline workers was described as a police spokesman said today. The blast occurred while loaded with parcels about to be put aboard planes. Of 14thman employees injured, three were seriously hurt. Information was available on the precise target of the bomb, who might have been responsible for sending the parcel.

US, April 4 (R)—Repercussions of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty will be discussed at a meeting of the Palestinian Council (PCC) in Damascus on Saturday. A Palestinian spokesman said the meeting of the 64-member PCC — a parliament—would be attended by Yasser Arafat, head of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). The council will discuss the resolutions of last week's conference of Arab foreign ministers, which adopted political and economic measures against Egypt.

T, April 4 (R)—Gen. Victor Khoury has tendered his resignation as defence minister to President Elias Sarkis but no has been taken on whether to accept it. Prime Minister Hoss announced today after the weekly cabinet meeting. Khoury is also commander of the Lebanese army and cannot take posts under a newly promulgated defence law.

T, April 4 (R)—An emergency ministerial meeting has led for next Monday to discuss Iraq's proposal to suspend membership in the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC), a spokesman said today. Iraq today the suspension would be in line with the political, economic and sanctions adopted by Arab countries. Egypt after it signed a separate peace treaty with Israel. The pact, set up in 1968, comprises Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Syria, Algeria, Libyan Arab, Egypt and Iraq.

April 4 (R)—Egypt today announced its recognition of Islamic Republic of Iran, the official Middle East News said. It added that Prime Minister Mustapha Khalil sent a congratulatory message recognising the new regime in Iran following the announcement of the referendum on the establishment of the republic.

N, April 4 (AP)—Iran Wednesday took another apparent step towards the non-aligned movement, with the arrival of a representative for talks at the foreign ministry. Sri Lankan Minister A.C.S. Hamid arrived in Tehran Wednesday. Iranian diplomats said Wednesday that Iran's role in the non-aligned movement, with Mr. Hamid, whose country is the head of the non-aligned movement. They added that membership was now possible following the withdrawal of the Central Treaty Organisation (CENTO) on March 27.

I, April 4 (R)—The United Nations has approved a program for reestablishing Lebanese government authority in Lebanon. Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss said here yesterday a meeting with Gen. Alexander Erskine, commander of the UN Truce Supervision Force in Lebanon (UNTSF). Dr. Hoss said the program provided for promoting the presence of UN administration, strengthening the Lebanese military in the U.N. zone of operations, stabilising the ceasefire and venting armed infiltration. It also provided for the gradual withdrawal of UN Truce Supervision Force troops and later of Lebanese army troops along the Lebanese-Israeli border. He said a battalion of UN Truce Supervision Force troops would be sent to South Lebanon before April 19. The UN said such a force to the South in the past had run into trouble by Israel and the Israeli-backed militiamen.

AB, April 4 (R)—Lebanese Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss said today that he would pay a one-day official visit to the United Arab Emirates on Sunday, the official Emirates news agency WAM said. He said the Lebanese premier will brief the UAE leaders on the current situation in South Lebanon and on the government's efforts to restore peace and stability and re-build the Lebanese forces. Bilateral relations will also be discussed, WAM said. The agency said the prime minister's visit was part of a tour of Arab states.

Entebbe Airport reported at rebels' mercy

NAIROBI, April 4 (R)—A Tanzanian-backed rebel force had Uganda's Entebbe International Airport at its mercy today after a clash with Libyan troops fighting for President Idi Amin, exile sources said.

They said the rebels had cut the main road to Kampala following the battle on Monday night near Kajansi, 12 kilometres outside the capital, on the way to Entebbe.

More than 150 Libyan and Ugandan troops were killed in the fighting and many wounded were taken to Kampala's Mulago Hospital, the sources said.

Kampala was also reported to be threatened from the east, with the exile sources saying anti-Amin forces had attacked a Libyan barracks at Mukono, 30-kilometres east of the capital. This meant rebel forces are now reported to be on four of the six major roads out of Kampala.

Residents in Kampala reported an increase in small arms fire in the capital today, and one said cars moving out of the city towards Entebbe were being fired on by anti-Amin forces.

Exile sources said President Amin had moved most Libyan troops out of the city during the past two days, leaving the defence of Kampala to his depleted marine regiment and the military police.

In Tripoli, the Libyan Jamahiriyah issued its second denial in two days that Libyan troops had been sent to Uganda.

The only Libyans in Uganda were teachers, bank employees, medical missions and sports officials, it said.

PAPILLON

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AND
DUSTIN HOFFMAN**
Is still showing at
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**PERFORMANCES: 12:00, 15:00,
17:45, 20:15.**
Fridays and Sundays: an additional show at 10:30

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4 children killed in explosion

AMMAN, April 4 (JNA)—Four children aged between six and nine were killed today when an explosive device which they were playing with went off, the Public Security Director announced here today. In the incident which took place near the village of Wadi Seer, west of here, two other children aged seven and eight were seriously hurt.

The directorate said the children had found an old iron object in one of the fields near the UNRWA Vocational Training Centre this morning and were playing with it when it exploded.

The Directorate also reported for the first time a similar incident which took place on Feb. 2, 1979. In that accident a group of children found a bomb at Yadouda, 20 kilometres south of Amman, and were playing with it when it went off, killing four children and seriously wounding a fifth.

The Directorate appealed to all citizens to not allow their children to touch any old iron objects that they may find lying about in fields and asked that the nearest police station be alerted as soon as such objects are spotted.

Housing Bank deposits up 68%

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, April 4—The continuing brisk growth in the Jordanian banking and housing sectors is reflected in the 1978 performance of the Housing Bank. The five-year old bank, which has a minority shareholding by the government, registered sharp increases in deposits, loans, revenues and profits, according to the 1978 balance sheet it has just published.

Deposits rose by 68 per cent to JD 61.65 million, and loans rose by 42 per cent to JD 61.032 million. The Housing Bank now ranks number two in the country in terms of deposits, only exceeded by the Arab Bank, which last year topped the JD 1 billion mark for the first time ever.

The Housing Bank's revenues rose by 61 per cent last year to JD 5.154 million, and net profits rose by 76 per cent to JD 1.619 million. Of this amount, JD 630,606 is being distributed to shareholders, representing a nine per cent dividend.

The Housing Bank's savings deposits at the end of last year represented 21.7 per cent of total sav-

ings deposits in the Jordanian banking system, a rise over the 1977 figure of 19.3 per cent.

The Housing Bank's total deposits at the end of last year represented 15.3 per cent of all deposits in Jordanian banks, also a rise over the previous year's figure of 13 per cent.

The bank's statistics show that 67.6 per cent of its outstanding loans last year were for projects in the Amman region, and 4.6 per cent for the Zarqa area. Aqaba and Irbid, with 5.3 and 5.1 per cent of total loans respectively, were also high on the list.

R.G.K.

IBRD to aid electrification project with \$15 m. loan

AMMAN, April 4 (JNA)—The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development is to loan \$15 million to the Jordan Electricity Authority to assist a project for the electrification of southern rural areas of Jordan the authority's director, Ali Nsour, said here today.

Mrs. Nsour was a member of a Jordanian team led by the President of the National Planning Council, Hanna Odeh, that returned from the United States yesterday after negotiating for the loan with bank officials.

The two-phase project is estimated to cost \$53 million, Mr. Nsour said.

Italy, Jordan to cooperate on solar energy project

AMMAN, April 4 (JNA)—Italy and Jordan are to launch a bilateral project for exploiting solar energy for the purpose of pumping water and electric power generation. Director of the Jordan Electricity Authority Ali Nsour announced here today.

He said agreement on the project was reached in Italy during talks by a Jordanian team of specialists and Italian officials last month. The Jordanian team went to Italy to attend a conference on solar energy which ended on March 29.

Several solar energy projects are currently underway in Jordan among which are a sea water desalination project in Aqaba and a water heating project for domestic use, Mr. Nsour said.

Alia adds flights

AMMAN, April 4 (JNA)—Alia is to add three more cities to its network of flights as from this month, the airline announced here today. According to the new plan, Alia planes will make two weekly stops in Istanbul and San'aa and will make one flight per week to Houston, Texas in the United States. Alia sources said the airline also intends to increase its weekly

flights to New York, London, Frankfurt, Larnaca, Madrid, Athens, Jeddah and Aqaba to meet the increasing demand on these routes. Further increases in flights are also planned for Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the Gulf states, to transport Jordanians coming home for the summer holidays, Alia said.

NOTE BOOK

Three cheers for Fathi

By Rami G. Khouri

WHAT IS THE BEST hope of the Arabs to thwart the Zionist-imperialist conspiracy that threatens the very meaning and existence of the Arab nation? The Soviet Union? Proletarian street agitation? Economic boycotts?

No. It is Colonel Fathi Abu Saoud, or rather the spirit that he represents.

Who, you ask, is Col. Fathi Abu Saoud? He is the police officer who was recently brought in to clear up the traffic mess that reigned throughout Amman. Last I heard he was accused of favouritism, or using the channels of the Jordanian press to heap praise on certain individuals. I must admit that I have never met Col. Abu Saoud.

But I think he deserves mention because he represents that brand of action and decisiveness that is now so badly required in the Arab World, to face up to the historic challenges of nationhood and the preservation of one's national interest. I do not know this from knowing the man, because as I stand, I've never met the fellow. But I have my praise on the average of 50 kilometres a day that I drive in and around Amman.

Up until about three months ago, driving was a real chore. The chaotic traffic situation in Amman discouraged even the most compassionate and patient driver. Amman residents will understand what I am talking about. And the situation was getting worse, not better.

The police department was obviously aware of the fact, and the police commander, Gen. Ghazi Arabiyat, handpicked Col. Abu Saoud to leave his former command to take charge of the Amman traffic department.

What we've had since then is a dramatic improvement in the traffic situation, as any Amman resident will quickly admit. I am told, by reliable sources close to the traffic department, that the turnaround has been accomplished without any additional manpower or spending by the traffic department, simply by a reorganisation of the department's working methods, a more dynamic leadership at the top, and, of course, some changes of traffic flows and regulations.

What we have now is probably one of the best traffic systems in any capital of any country in the world. I don't think that's an exaggeration, and I have the boldness to make such rash statements only after deliberately driving right through the heart of lovely downtown Amman tens of times in the past few weeks, in an incredulous attempt to verify the initial sensation I had a few weeks ago of driving through the downtown area, from Jabal Amman to the airport, at the height of the rush hour, in no more than ten minutes, and without running into any traffic congestion of any kind.

I realised that what happened in the downtown area was also happening throughout the rest of the capital. Up and down the different jabbas, parked cars disappeared from the sides of

main streets; formerly chaotic intersections were cleared up by making some streets one-way; large main thoroughfares, such as the main street of Jabal Hussein, were partitioned with stone-block dividers, preventing those U-turns that are the hallmark of Jordanian drivers; and streets that were choked off by hundreds of parked cars were suddenly cleared up by moving the cars to free public parking lots that have been established in vacant lots throughout the capital.

To enforce the new rules, those helmeted traffic policemen on their large, white Honda-75 motorcycles patrolled the streets with a new ferocity, applying the law with a determination that has been rarely seen around Amman in recent years.

What does this mean? Why do I bring this to the attention of this newspaper's readers at a time when the issues dominating the news are dealing more with attacks against American embassies, Arab economic and political boycotts of Egypt and gruesome plans by the American Israeli-Egyptian triumvirate to impose its insidious plan for Palestinian "autonomy" on the occupied West Bank and Gaza? It is because it accumulated force of the negativism that has been imposed on the Middle East by eleven years of Israeli occupation that is nurtured and sustained by the acquiescence of the United States can be withstood and overcome by a counterforce Arab positivism, achievement and vitality. Writers of history and the students of civility will not immediately think of traffic department as the cutting edge of one's revitalised commitment to national self-preservation. But suggest that the lesson to be learned from a manner in which Col. Abu Saoud and Gen. Arabiyat have quickly improved the city's traffic situation is that the combination of effective decision-making and decisive implementation is stronger than any force or obstacle in the past one's goals.

I am not suggesting that Col. Abu Saoud should now lead his motorcycle traffic brigade into battle to liberate Jerusalem. What I do, however, is that the same vitality that has been harnessed by the police department's leaders to solve the traffic problems of Amman should be harnessed to tackle other problems and challenges faced by the Arab nation as a whole.

This principle applies to regional and national matters. The apparent magnitude of one's difficulties should be measured only against the fortitude of one's national machinery decision-making and implementation. The situation is a mundane but timely example of what can be achieved with our resources.

What applies to traffic in Amman also applies to the national interests of the Arab people. The national rights of the Palestinians in particular. The next time Dr. Brezinski flies into the Land to twist anybody's arm, he should be on a tour of the traffic department.

Regrettable

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE not to feel revulsion and regret at the hanging of Mr. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto in Pakistan. We say this in full cognisance of the fact that sovereign countries have the obvious right to conduct their internal political affairs as they see fit without unfair criticism from their friends abroad, that Mr. Bhutto, like so many other world leaders, probably did commit harmful, vindictive, possibly even criminal acts while in office, and that his once vaunted position in Pakistani political life did not make him immune to the full measure of the law.

Still, sufficient doubts hang over the Bhutto case to cause us to question the wisdom of exacting the ultimate penalty in this manner. General Zia will be accused, both inside Pakistan and abroad, of acting out of the same political revenge from which Mr. Bhutto's crime was alleged to have stemmed. But, by going ahead with the hanging in the face of unprecedented protests and pleas for mercy from every corner of the world and from world leaders of all political complexions, General Zia has demonstrated his imperviousness to criticism.

Likewise, we are bound to question the political wisdom of hanging Mr. Bhutto. It is extremely doubtful that carrying out the death sentence is any more likely to subdue Mr. Bhutto's PPP followers than granting him clemency, or even allowing him to languish in prison, would have been.

The world, however unfairly, will be quick to relate the brutal penalty exacted against Mr. Bhutto to the Islamic legal and social reforms which General Zia is pledged to enact. That may or may not be important in Pakistan or Pakistanis, but it emphasises the extent to which Mr. Bhutto, whatever his domestic reputation, was a figure of exceptional international prominence—particularly as an articulate voice for Third World concerns. Like his old rival Mujibur Rahman, who met a similarly brutal end after midwifing his country to independence, and like Mrs. Indira Gandhi, who has paid an infinitely smaller price for her political sins, Mr. Bhutto will occupy a prominent place in the contemporary history of the subcontinent.

We must worry about where Pakistan goes now. It is a country which, as Mr. Bhutto realised, is linked by strong bonds to the rest of the Islamic, and the Arab, nations. Its inherent fragility makes it always an unfortunate candidate for falling victim to the wave of instability which is already rocking its neighbours. It is a country of many parts which could easily fall apart: the Bhutto hanging could serve as the first fissure in the seism.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RAY Wednesday says that Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan Tuesday expressed his disappointment with the "reserved" attitude of the statement issued by the European Economic Community (EEC) on the separate peace treaty.

On Monday, however, the official U.S. State Department spokesman confirmed that the United States still believes that its handling of the Middle East issue is correct.

"It seems that these statements, including Egyptian statements, deliberately ignore U.N. Security Council resolution 242. The autonomy they propose is in no way a logical or admissible alternative to resolution 242," the paper says.

The reason why EEC member states adhere to supporting a comprehensive settlement based on resolution 242, and not on the Camp David dictates, is that these countries "realise how difficult it is to impose solutions based on U.S. interests and Israeli ambitions," the paper adds.

"The Palestinian issue, that includes the realisation of Palestinian rights, constitutes the bone of contention in the area. Nevertheless, the United States still ignores this fact, and lends its support to Israel out of concern for its own interests. Not only that, but it has eliminated the essence of the conflict, and redefined it as a border dispute between Israel and several Arab countries."

"We hope that the United States will realise, before it is too late, that excluding Egypt from the conflict will not assure the required solution," the paper says.

"If the U.S. is serious in its quest for peace, then it has resolutions 242 and 338, Geneva, the U.N. General Assembly and Security Council to resort to." This the United States must do "unless it views peace from the Israeli perspective," the paper concludes.

AL DUSTOUR says that Israel and its accomplices have set themselves the task of destroying Jordan's national unity in order to use Jordan as a springboard from which to "penetrate deep into the Arab World, and hence dissipate the hopes of our fellow Arabs in the occupied territories of ever restoring their lands and rights."

"Our national unity is being threatened by evil ambitions and plots against our country and destiny shaping issues," the paper added.

The paper stresses that it is the duty of everybody to protect and uphold the national unity of Jordan. "Our people stand fast behind His Majesty King Hussein and have the capability, courage and determination to maintain national unity which safeguards our cause," the paper concludes.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Book Exhibit

The Goethe Institute presents an exhibition of children's books, in German and English, at the Preparatory Boy's school No. 1 at Zarqa Camp. The exhibit is in commemoration of the International Year of the Child, and is ending today.

Russian Film

The Soviet Cultural Centre presents a film about war entitled "A Front without Wings" at 6:00 p.m.



Bhutto: A 'populist demagogue'...

ANALYSIS

Why Bhutto had to hang

By Gwynne Dyer

"HE EXPECTS TO BE HANGED by General Zia," reported the wife of Pakistan's deposed Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto earlier this year. "He talks about his hanging as if he is talking about something very ordinary. His morale is fantastic. I get my boost of morale from going to see him for an hour a week. He jokes, and talks, and laughs."

Mr. Bhutto also predicted that his hanging would bring the final break-up of Pakistan. Last December, in his closing address to the Pakistan Supreme Court, which was to refuse his appeal against a death sentence on a murder charge, the former Prime Minister told his judges: "If martial law was lifted tomorrow, you'd see what would happen. It would outdo Tehran and everything else."

The actual crime for which Mr. Bhutto was condemned to death—ordering the murder of a political opponent in November 1974—may or may not have involved him. Certainly the seven-month-long appeal before the Supreme Court revealed grave flaws in the government's evidence.

The way that the government tinkered with the composition of the Supreme Court bench during the appeal, and the fact that the final decision to uphold the death sentence on Mr. Bhutto was a 4-3 split, along ethnic lines, made the final decision even more questionable. But the fact is that

this was all facade: a way of justifying a decision to hang Mr. Bhutto taken on other grounds.

Nobody who followed Mr. Bhutto's career, since he first came to power in Pakistan after the 1971 secession of Bangladesh, would doubt that he ordered a few quiet murders in his time. But that is not usually regarded as a serious flaw—certainly not a hanging offence—in the national leaders of countries as turbulent as Pakistan, provided they are discreet about it.

If political murder by those in authority were a crime, after all, then several dozen world leaders would wind up at the end of a rope. But they usually do not, even when they are deposed. The reason Mr. Bhutto went to the gallows was that he still had a powerful political following in Pakistan.

So long as Bhutto lived the threat of a rising in his favour kept most of the Army's troops deployed in the lowland cities to protect Zia, even though their absence from the frontier provinces was causing a steady loss of a central government control there.

Hanging Mr. Bhutto was a calculated risk on the part of General Zia. Although he has arrested thousands of the more prominent members of Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party, he cannot do much about the fanatical rank-and-file followers like the four who burned themselves to death on October. He must just flood the cities with troops and hope to ride out any riots that follow the execution.



...but will his fate turn Pakistan into another Iran?

It was a kill-or-cure-measure, but until the shadow of Mr. Bhutto was removed even the Islamic opposition parties dared not risk becoming too closely involved with General Zia. Bhutto entered fully into the spirit of this curbside game, by refusing even to plead for mercy: better to hang, knowing that it will make the sky fall in on Zia.

But why did Pakistan arrive at this bitter end, where its only choice was between Bhutto and Zia? Mr. Bhutto, after all, was an arrogant demagogue who harassed and imprisoned his opponents. White Papers published in the course of the proceedings against him demonstrated that his methods were vicious, and his only goal was personal power.

General Zia, who overthrew him after the rigged 1977 elections, is just as unpromising a

figure. He goes about the country looking like a medieval monarch, dispensing justice and government funds capriciously to his petitioners.

The reason that Pakistan has a choice of Zia and Bhutto, and that the latter hangs the former, is simply that the country has no real identity. Its four nationalities have no loyalty of language. Pakistan as the land of the subcontinent's Muslims has no religious concept, almost two-thirds of its in India or Bangladesh.

So the only way to appeal to the people of Pakistan are in the ever greater overt populist demagogues—Bhutto or Zia or even Zia's successor. So long as the country will fall apart, hanging could be the answer.

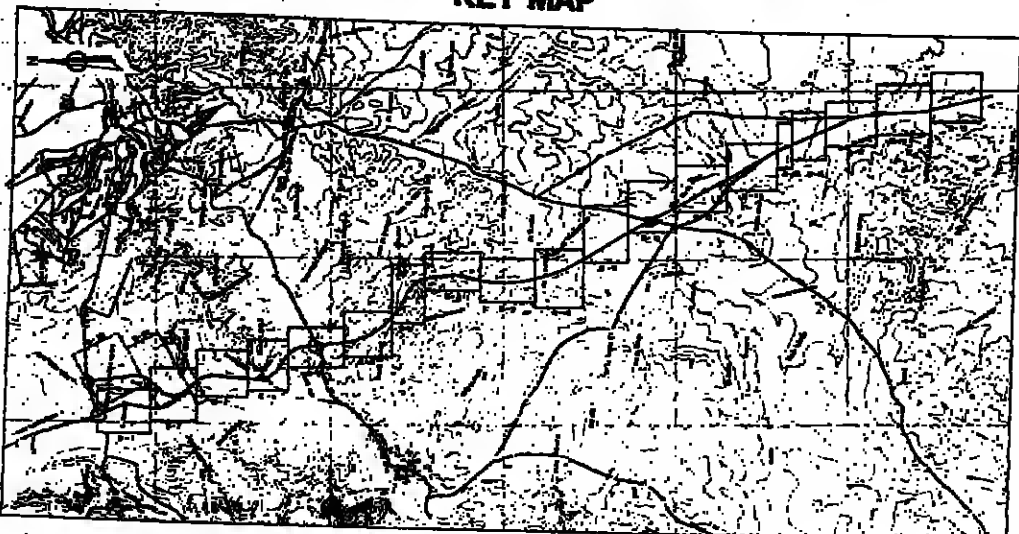
سكنا من ليل

Local firm wins airport highway contract

AMMAN-QUEEN ALIA

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT HIGHWAY PROJECT

KEY MAP



SCALE 1:50,000

THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN
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HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT
PROJECT: AMMAN-QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT HIGHWAY PROJECT
KEY MAP
DATE: 1979/04/05
DRAWN BY: [Name]
CHECKED BY: [Name]

By Ron Cathell
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, April 4 — The contract for construction of the Queen Alia International Airport road was awarded last week to the local firm General Enterprises Company Ltd. (Geneco). The road will extend from two points west of Amman to the airport terminal 34 kilometres south of the city. It will start at the Seventh Circle and at the Wadi Seer crossroads. The two stretches of highway will join two and a half kilometres farther south.

Valued at JD 5.2 million, the contract calls for completion of the road in three years, to coincide with the scheduled completion of the airport. "But according to our plans, we will be able to finish the road before then," Geneco Projects Director Butros Khouri told the Jordan Times. They are now awaiting the order from the Ministry of Public Works to commence work. Geneco was previously awarded most of the contracts to build the airport, including the contracts for the runways and taxi lanes, terminal buildings and access roads. For the airport road, Geneco won't call for any subcontractors. "What for?" Mr. Khouri asked. "We are fully equipped for this job."

Businessmen and travellers will be able to streak to the new Queen Alia International Airport from the Seventh Circle in just 15-20 minutes; cars and buses won't have to wait at traffic lights for stop for school kids to cross the street. The airport road will offer a high-speed non-stop drive for those caught in a mad dash to reach their plane on schedule. And for those who have time for a pleasure cruise, it will offer a smooth ride and beautiful scenery, meandering through rolling hills and agricultural fields.

The airport road took over a year to design by the engineering consultants Mohammad A.R. Jardaneh Company in a joint venture with China Engineering Consultants Inc., of Taiwan. It will be almost identical to the Zarqa highway, also built by Geneco. Both one-way lanes will be seven and a half metres-wide to accom-

modate two cars side by side. Separating the lanes will be a five metre-wide divider which will eventually be landscaped. There will also be a one and a half metre shoulder on each side of the road for emergency stops.

Although the plans don't provide for overhead lighting, there will be plenty of reflectors to make the lanes and approaching curves. All the curves in the road will be very gradual. There won't be any sharp turns, except for the ramps of the three interchanges. Both lanes will have a two per cent grade sloping upward to allow for drainage. "Just like in the United States," Mr. Khouri said.

Where the two roads from the Seventh Circle and the Wadi Seer crossroads join, an overpass will enable traffic to merge without stopping. About six kilometres of the old road from the crossroads to Na'ur will be rebuilt. Instead of angling slightly west towards Na'ur, the airport road will break new ground to head south and, about two kilometres further on, cross the road from downtown Amman Na'ur where a full interchange will allow traffic to alter course without stopping. The road will continue south winding through hills and valleys where no roads have previously been built. It will continue in this direction for



about 10 kilometres and cross the Mdaha desert highway. Here there will be another interchange. Continuing south, the airport road will link up with the road to Aqaba which will be rebuilt for about eight kilometres until it reaches a third interchange that starts the final four-kilometres leg to the

airport. Effectively, once a driver turns onto the airport road from west Amman, it is a straight shot to the airport. The airport road will also provide a smooth ride for the first 30 kilometres of the journey to Aqaba, turning at the third interchange onto the present Aqaba road.

National News Roundup

Amended public health law approved

April 4 (JNA)—A royal decree was issued today approving amended public health law. According to the new law a for fixing fees medical treatment will be formed under the help of the health minister. The committee will have to draw ex of fees for medical treatment in the private sector, doctors' fees, X-ray and laboratory services as well as tion. Prices of medicine as well as medical treatment in at run hospitals are not affected by the amended law.

driver and car licensing system under consideration

April 4 (JNA)—The Public Security Directorate has a new system by which drivers can have their licences and s of their vehicles renewed by post; a source at the direc- here today. According to the source, the new system, been referred to the Interior Ministry for consideration, litating the process of renewing licences without recourse rent procedures used by the Motor Vehicles Licensing al.

decrees approve 2 Kuwait-Fund loans

April 4 (JNA)—A royal decree issued today approved a sing a loan agreement between Jordan and the Kuwait Arab Economic Development. According to the agreement ill grant Jordan a loan of 2.9 million Kuwaiti dinars to project for producing nearly 840 thousand tons of phos- lisers. Another Royal decree issued today approved an for a loan of 1.2 million Kuwaiti dinars by the Kuwait Arab Economic Development to the Arab Potash Com- money will finance construction of part of the company's 280 housing units for employees near the southern tip of

USAID energy director and Industry minister discuss cooperation

AMMAN, April 4 (JNA)—Minister of Industry and Commerce Dr. Nijmeddin Dajani discussed here today with the visiting director of energy for the United States Aid for International Development (USAID) Dr. Alan Jacobs, a programme for U.S.-Jordanian cooperation in the field of energy. This include the search for energy sources other than oil and the exploitation of solar energy and oil bearing rock. A detailed programme on the subject will be prepared and referred to the Jordanian national energy committee for further consideration and approval, Dr. Dajani said after the meeting.

Mayor of Medina in Amman for talks

AMMAN, April 4 (JNA)—Mr. Sadaqah Khashuqi, the Mayor of Medina Al Munawwara, arrived here today at the head of a four-man delegation on an official visit at the invitation of the Mayor of Amman, Mr. Ma'n Abu Nuwwar. During his five-day stay here, Mr. Khashuqi will meet with His Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Mudar Badran and Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs Mr. Ibrahim Ayyoub. He will also hold talks with the mayor of Amman and senior officials of the municipality on increasing coop- eration between Amman and Medina.

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TIME

The World Newsmagazine

Read in this week's issue...

NUCLEAR NIGHTMARE (Pennsylvania reactor break- down causes alarm).
MIDDLE EAST UNREST (Arabs angry over Israeli- Egyptian peace treaty).
ARAFAT PREDICTS NEW TURMOIL (says Israel mas- sing troops on northern border).
LIBYA'S QADHAFI INTERVIEW (says three will be revolts in Saudi Arabia and Morocco).
HENRY FORD'S TROUBLES (set to retire from motor company but under attack from outside).
CALLAGHAN GOES DOWN (Britain may have first woman prima minister).
OPEC'S PRICE SHOCK (new increases trouble world economies).
AMIN'S LAST STAND? (Uganda dictator fights for his life).

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TODAY'S WEATHER

The weather will be partly cloudy and temperatures will be average. Winds will be northerly moderate. In Aqaba, there will be hazy conditions with northerly winds and calm seas.

	Overnight	Daytime
Amman	low 10	high 24
Aqaba	15	29
Deserts	12	27
Jordan Valley	14	29

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Japanese yen	
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NOTICE TO ALL U.S. TAXPAYERS

Ms. CINDY HILL, U.S. Taxpayer Assistor, will visit Amman from April 3 to April 7 in order to aid U.S. Citizens with Tax problems and answer questions concerning taxation. Ms. Hill will be available in the consulate to answer special questions on a first come, first served basis, from 1000 to 1600 on April 4, from 1100 to 1600 on April 5, and in the commercial office downtown from 0900 to 1300 on April 7.

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JORDAN TIMES SPORTS ROUNDUP

Baseball roundup

NEW YORK, April 4 (AP)—The cry of "play ball" will announce the opening of the baseball season Wednesday night. The question is who will shout it. The latest report was that Paul Pryor, the only arbir who has bolted the ranks of dissident umpires to sign an individual contract, would do the honours in Cincinnati, where the Reds were scheduled for their traditional opener Thursday against the San Francisco Giants. Pryor was expected to be one of the umpires in Cincinnati. Some other major league umpires have refused to sign their contracts, seeking to renegotiate individually for higher wages. The two leagues had hoped to sign a dozen minor league umpires, but eight of them rejected the offer of three-year major league contracts.

Fans are expected at Cincinnati's Riverfront Stadium to watch what could be a pitching duel between Tom Seaver of the Reds and San Francisco's Vida Blue. After a slow start, Seaver was 16-14 with a 2.87 earned run average last year while Blue was 15-10 and 2.79. Between 15-20 major league umpires are expected to be on picket duty in Cincinnati.

The Reds will get underway with two important new faces—John McNamara replacing Sparky Anderson as the managerial wizard and light-hitting Ray Knight taking over at third base for hard-hitting Pete Rose, who signed a lucrative free agent pact with the Philadelphia Phillies after 16 seasons and 2,164 hits with the Reds. The Angels will send Frank Tanana, 18-12 and 3.05, against Seattle's Cloen Abbott, 7-15 and 3.28, but most eyes will be on seven-time all batting champ Rod Carew, who is now California's first baseman after 12 seasons with the Minnesota Twins. The addition of Carew has made the Angels the favourite to unseat the Kansas City Royals in the All West. There will be no picketing umpires in Seattle Wednesday, and the Mariners expect a crowd of between 32,000-35,000 thanks to an anonymous fan who purchased 10,000 of the Kingdom's \$1.50 seats to be distributed to youngsters and senior citizens, among others.

Most teams wound up their exhibition schedules Tuesday and headed for their opening game sites. Detroit left fielder Steve Kemp was beaten by Boston's Andy Hawkins as the Tigers trounced the Red Sox 5-2. Kemp apparently escaped serious injury when he was struck on the batting helmet but was taken to a hospital for observation.

Favourites move ahead in squash semi-finals

LONDON, April 4 (R)—Geoff Hunt of Australia and Pakistan's Qamar Zaman, Mohibullah Khan and Hiddy Jahan predictably filled the semi-final places in the £74,000 British Open Squash Championship here last night. Hunt, the world champion, had little trouble eliminating world number two Gogi Navjiden of Pakistan 5-0, 9-1, 10-7 to put himself within sight of his first open title.

World number two Zaman experienced the most difficult quarter final match among the leading quartet. Fellow countryman Maqsood Ahmed, the former world amateur champion, forced him to five testing games before going out 9-7, 5-9, 9-4, 7-9, 9-3. Mohibullah ranked third in the world, crushed New Zealander Bruce Brownlee 9-4, 9-1, 9-1 and in-form Jahan, ranked fourth, defeated six times champion Johan Barrington of Britain 9-0, 9-4, 9-3. Hunt plays Jahan and Zaman faces Mohibullah in the semi-finals on Thursday.

Basketball roundup

NEW YORK, April 4 (AP)—The Denver Nuggets climbed into a first-place tie with idle Kansas City in the National Basketball Association's Midwest Division by beating the New Jersey Nets 110-97 Tuesday night. Dan Issel and Bobby Wilkerson scored 25 and 18 points respectively.

In other NBA games: Los Angeles Lakers 97, Chicago Bulls 95. Los Angeles trailed by 27 points early in the third period but rallied to win as Kenny Carr scored seven points in the final 34 minutes, including the go-ahead basket with 43 seconds left and a free throw in the closing seconds that iced the victory. Kareem Abdul-Jahhar led the Lakers with 27 points and Carr finished with 16.

Houston Rockets 116, New York Knicks 115. Calvin Murphy scored 29 points, including a pair of baskets to start a 9-0 Houston surge late in the final, giving the Rockets the victory over the Knicks. It was New York's seventh loss in a row and 50th of the year, the first time since 1985-86 the Knicks have lost 50.

San Antonio Spurs 116, Cleveland Cavaliers 112. George Gervin, the NBA's leading scorer, poured in 46 points as San Antonio maintained its lead of 14 games over Houston in the Central Division. Gervin's layup with 1:20 to play to put the Spurs ahead to stay 108-107.

Portland Blazers 106, Seattle Supersonics 102. Portland won its fifth in a row and its ninth in the last 10 games as centre Tom Owens scored 24 points. Dave Twardzik's driving layup with six seconds left clinched the victory.

Washington Bullets 112, Milwaukee Bucks 108. Washington trailed by 11 points during the third period but outscored Milwaukee 19-4 at the start of the final period. The Bucks closed to within two points before baskets by Elvin Hayes and Bobby Dandridge in the final minute put the game away.

New Orleans Jazz 141, Boston Celtics 125. New Orleans shot 64.4 per cent from the field to hand Boston its fifth straight loss. Spencer Haywood and Gail Goodrich scored 26 points each for the Jazz.

Golden State Warriors 104, Detroit Pistons 100. Tom Abernethy scored 18 of his 20 points in the second half as Golden State sent Detroit to its sixth straight defeat.

LONDON—This model helicopter, having survived a simulated "ditching" is manoeuvred into position during tests at the British Hovercraft Corporation's Experimental and Electronic Laboratories (EEL) in southern England.

The ditching tests were carried out with an accurately constructed lightweight scale model fitted with instrumentation and ballasted to obtain the required scale, weight, centre of gravity and moments of inertia about the pitch, roll and yaw axes. Floodable compartments are also represented. Tests to determine the behaviour of the helicopter in various sea conditions are made as it is floated on various headings into a range of breaking and non-breaking, regular and irregular waves. Tests are also made to prove the effect of emergency "pop-out" flotation bags and to assess the need for additional flotation equipment. (COI photo)

Ditching with safety



Munich laser helps to stop internal haemorrhage

MUNICH—Doctors Peter Klefhaber and Karin Montz are developing lasers for medical use at a nuclear research laboratory near the Bavarian capital. A rabbit's bladder is here being bombarded with radiation from an argon laser. The two doctors have been particularly successful with laser treatment of acute haemorrhages in the stomach and intestines. Details of clinical trials have been published: in more than 440 cases involving 360 patients gangorous internal haemorrhages have been brought to a halt in this way. (Dad photo)



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China tells USSR of decision to end friendship treaty

BEIJING, April 4 (R) -- China told the Soviet Union yesterday that it would not renew their 30-year friendship treaty when it expires next year.

The pact now existed in name only because of violations for which China was not responsible, the China News Agency said, ending the decision.

The treaty of friendship, alliance and mutual assistance, signed in 1949, was due to expire next April. But the last of the articles said it would continue for five years unless one of the parties announced otherwise.

China last year signed a peace and friendship treaty with Japan, and indicated then that it would not renew the pact with Moscow to a Soviet Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping said during a visit to Beijing that the treaty was a dead

they would act together "against the resumption of Japanese imperialism and a repetition of aggression from Japan or from any other state which unites in any form with Japan in acts of aggression."

The pact also said they would give each other military aid if either were attacked by Japan. The treaty called for close economic cooperation. But Moscow suddenly terminated its aid programme to China and withdrew technicians in 1960 after an ideological split.

The Chinese news agency said the decision not to renew the treaty was made by the standing committee of parliament. Foreign

Minister Huang Hua immediately told Soviet Ambassador Ilya Shcherbakov.

Mr. Huang said that although the two nations differed on principles this should not hamper the maintenance and development of normal state relations. He proposed that negotiations be held to solve outstanding issues and improve relations, the agency said.

Meanwhile, a Soviet radio station yesterday denounced China's decision not to renew the friendship pact with the Soviet Union, accusing the Chinese of pursuing an "anti-Soviet, anti-socialist policy."

Radio Peace and Progress said comments by the New China News Agency that the treaty had long existed in name only, and that China had not broken it, "have nothing to do with reality."

Australian police foil hijack attempt

SYDNEY, Australia, April 4 (AP) -- Police shot and seriously wounded a would-be hijacker today when he tried to set off a beer can full of gunpowder after holding a woman at knifepoint aboard a Panam jumbo jet from Los Angeles.

Police said the man was a 34-year-old Italian immigrant carpenter named Dimicela Speranza who demanded to be flown to Italy for meetings with Pope John Paul II and communist leader Enrico Berlinguer and then on to Moscow. He was reported in critical condition.

The shooting ended a four-hour siege at the Sydney airport that began when the man grabbed a nurse checking in for a flight to New Zealand for her brother's wedding. Holding a knife to her throat, he dragged her aboard a Boeing 747 that had arrived 15 minutes earlier from Los Angeles and was waiting empty for passengers and crew for a return flight in 15 minutes.

Special anti-hijack squads quickly scaled off the airport and the plane. They began negotiations with the man, and he

released his terrified hostage after more than two hours. She was suffering from minor throat lacerations and shock.

Police Superintendent Jack McNeil told a news conference that after the man released the woman, he produced two beer cans and a knife. He said he was negotiating with the man in the cabin when he ducked behind a seat and tried to light the fuse on one of the cans.

Mr. McNeil said one of the detectives then fired two shots at the man. He said the decision to shoot the man was taken after an attempt to flush him out of the plane with high pressure hoses failed, and he became irrational.

Police later found 200 empty shotgun cartridges at his home and said he had used the powder from the shells to make the bombs.

The police said the man arrived in Australia in 1973 and had a police record of minor offences. They said during the negotiations aboard the plane he claimed he had not been paid proper compensation for injuries he got in a car accident several years ago.

Angola-Zaire railway said back in use

ANGOLA, April 4 (R) -- International traffic on the Benguela railway linking Angola and Zaire was reopened, the Zaire News Agency Angop reported from Luanda yesterday.

The railway to Reuters, Angop said, the Angolan railway company has 22 empty wagons for passengers from the Zairean railway, of which 13 carried passengers. It said such exchanges were a routine practice.

Passengers from Kinshasa on the 24 said a trial trainload of oranges and mangoes would cross the border this week to test the route, closed by fighting in Angola in 1975, could be reopened.

Half of world's shipbuilding yards said likely to close in next 2 years

LONDON, April 4 (AP) -- Half of the world's shipbuilding yards face certain closure during the next two years because of sharp falls in orders, Lloyd's Register of Shipping reported yesterday.

The London agency, which keeps track of tonnage afloat and under construction around the world, said in its report for 1978 that orders for new ships slumped a year to 18 million gross tons, the lowest output in a decade.

And in a gloomy report, Lloyd's Register Chairman R.A. Huskisson said the 1979 outlook is grimmer for an industry on a downturn since the 1973-74 slump of oil prices and subsequent world slump.

Describing the situation as serious for shipowners and disastrous for builders, Mr. Huskisson esti-

mated new orders in 1979 at some eight million gross tons, spread around world yards capable of producing 30 million tons.

"Many of the world's leading shipyards -- vastly experienced, superbly equipped and highly efficient -- are now without orders or the prospect of orders," said Mr. Huskisson.

"And it seems almost certain that only about half of the industry will survive through the lean years before recovery begins."

Mr. Huskisson, whose report was released at a news conference here, bases his predictions of recovery on a "turning point" in the world economy in 1980.

The report shows the world fleet hit a new record of 406 million tons in 1978. But the net increase of 12 million tons was the

smallest since 1968.

Oil tankers, at 175.04 million tons, accounted for nearly half the fleet, with most of the remainder divided evenly between ore and bulk carriers and general cargo vessels.

Japan, the world's biggest shipbuilding nation, continued to win the bulk of orders placed last year -- 43.3 per cent.

Some 80 million of the world's tonnage in 1978 sailed under the flag of the small west African nation of Liberia, the report shows, followed by Japan with 39 million tons and West Germany with 34 million tons.

But of the 830 new ships registered last year, the biggest single number, 119, were registered in Britain, followed by Egypt, 52, Greece, 47, and Liberia, 43.

Vietnam ready for talks with China 'around April 10'

BANGKOK, Thailand, April 4 (AP) -- Vietnam announced today it was ready to begin normalisation talks with China around April 10 dropping an earlier condition that all Chinese troops be withdrawn from Vietnamese soil before negotiations could start.

"The only thing the Chinese delegation has to do is to apply for entry visas to Vietnam," Vice Foreign Minister Phan Hien told a news conference in Hanoi today in reference to his government's latest proposal.

The Vietnam News Agency, monitored in Bangkok, released a note the Vietnamese sent to the Chinese Foreign Ministry proposing that talks begin in Hanoi around April 10 at the vice foreign minister level. Mr. Phan Hien said the move was designed to show Vietnam's "goodwill" and contribute to preserving peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

The Foreign Ministry note said that Chinese troops continued to occupy areas of Vietnam and were digging trenches, building fortifications and beefing up their border forces "to provoke a new military conflict."

Hanoi had sent several earlier notes calling for negotiations once the Chinese withdrew from all Vietnamese territory. The latest note said that Peking on March 31 had admitted in a message to Vietnam that its troops were still stationed in some areas mentioned by Hanoi.

Analysis in Bangkok also confirm that Peking's troops hold a few areas previously in Vietnamese hands along the disputed frontier, especially some high ground along the border which is considered of military value.

Indochina analysts note that the dispute over border territory is only a minor issue in the quarrel between the one-line communist allies. Far bigger is Vietnam's alliance with Moscow, which Peking sees as a major threat, and Vietnam's invasion of Cambodia and the ouster of the pro-Peking regime of Premier Pol Pot.

World News Briefs

EEC to set up special aid fund for Turkey

LUXEMBOURG, April 4 (R) -- Common Market foreign ministers have agreed to set up a special fund worth \$115 million to give short-term aid to Turkey. Diplomatic sources said yesterday. Besides anxieties about the economic weakness of NATO's eastern flank, Common Market countries are concerned that Ankara should not feel politically out in the cold when Greece enters the Community. The fund will be used to make grants and soft loans to Turkey. The sources said it was additional to other aid from individual EEC member states, which will be channelled through the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). Turkey approved a long-term financing agreement with the EEC earlier this year worth \$430 million.

S. Africa begins 'illegal residence' cases

JOHANNESBURG, April 4 (R) -- A 32-year-old Indian appeared in court here yesterday charged with living illegally in a whites-only district in the first of 20 cases of people charged under South Africa's Group Areas Act. Mr. Ahmed Nazim Adam told the court that he had to live with his wife and baby in a white area of Johannesburg because they could find no where else to live. He said he would like nothing better than to live in an Indian area among his own people. The cases of the other people charged with the same offence were postponed to April 11. They were brought to court following a crackdown by the authorities on Indians and coloured (mixed race) people living in areas not designated for them under South Africa's apartheid regulations.

India asks Soviet aid for huge canal project

NEW DELHI, April 4 (R) -- India has asked Soviet experts to help draw up a plan to end droughts and floods by encircling all India with two giant canals. Premier Morarji Desai said yesterday. He told parliament the canal scheme would cost between 150,000 and 200,000 rupees (\$18.5 to \$25 billion) and take 15 years to build. The canals would together run for 12,600 kilometres, one encircling the Himalayan foothills across all north India and the other encircling south and central India. Mr. Desai said he asked Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin for expert help during his visit to India last month because of Soviet experience with similar projects in Siberia. He did not disclose Mr. Kosygin's reply. "Most of our problems will be solved," he said, if the scheme went ahead. The canals would irrigate 90 per cent of India, prevent floods and help development of water transport, he said.

John, Paul, George, Ringo succumb to heat

HOLLYWOOD, April 4 (R) -- The Beatles have vanished in a pile of melted wax. A fire at the Hollywood Wax Museum, which displays wax figures of show business personalities, yesterday destroyed eight figures, including those of the former British pop music group -- John Lennon, Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr and George Harrison. Seventy other wax figures were damaged and museum officials estimated the cost of the fire at \$300,000. Los Angeles fire officials said the fire was caused by an arsonist.

Mrs. Byrne is Chicago's new mayor

CHICAGO, April 4 (R) -- Mrs. Jane Byrne, a political outsider only weeks ago, has become Chicago's first woman mayor -- and with a bigger mandate than any of her five Democratic Party predecessors, including the legendary Richard Daley.

Mrs. Byrne won about 82 per cent of votes in the city's mayoral election yesterday, maintaining an unbroken democratic rule in the United States' second largest city since 1931.

She is only the second woman to become mayor of a major U.S. city. In San Francisco last December, Miss Dianne Feinstein replaced George Moscone, who was shot dead in his office by a disgruntled city official.

Mrs. Byrne, a 44-year-old twice-married former debutante with an Irish Catholic background, was virtually assured of election when she upset Mr.

Daley's chosen heir, incumbent Mayor Michael Bilandic, in a Democratic primary in February. Her Republican opponent, banker Wallace Johnson, who had predicted he would win at least 25,000 votes, conceded defeat two hours after the polls closed when a flood of rain showed Mrs. Byrne polling a margin.

Mrs. Byrne's aides said she was surprised by the size of her victory, which should give her tremendous leverage in pushing reforms through a City Council dominated by "democratic machine" regulars who sipped Mayor Bilandic's

Italy delays agreement on new world trade pact

LUXEMBOURG, April 4 (R) -- Italy, seeking better terms for its table grapes and wool textiles, has delayed agreement among the nine European Common Market members on initiating a new world trade pact.

Britain and France also expressed doubts early today at an EEC foreign ministers meeting about the concessions wrung from the United States and Japan by the EEC Commission.

Asked if Italy's objections could be overcome by April 11, when the agreements are due to be initialled in Geneva, but not signed, Mr. Adolfo Battaglia, under-secretary of state at the Italian Foreign Ministry, said: "I hope so."

Earlier, before the Italian objections were known, it was reported that the foreign ministers had reluctantly agreed to initial the agreements but that further negotiations in the 95-nation Geneva trade talks, known as the Tokyo Round, must continue right up to the final signing. Negotiations in the Tokyo Round, designed to improve the free flow

of world trade, have taken four years.

French Trade Minister Jean-Francois Deniau told a press conference the Italian reservations could be lifted in time for the EEC Commission to initial the agreement next week.

Speaking as president of the EEC Council of Ministers, he said it would not ratify the final agreement until it had seen whether the U.S. Congress accepted the pact as negotiated by its own government.

One of the major problems still to be resolved was U.S. acceptance of the right of EEC states to invoke a safeguard clause if they could prove that imports into the EEC caused material damage to their domestic industries.

Mr. Etienne Davignon, EEC industry commissioner, told reporters a major achievement of the Geneva negotiations was that in future there would be "an identical system of law" for all signatories of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

She said one of her priorities would be to revitalize Chicago's rundown black ethnic neighbourhoods, receiving heavy support from voters who make up 40 per cent of Chicago's three million population.

The size of her victory passed the biggest mandate her political mentor Mr. Daley received in six terms and led years as mayor. Mr. Daley's last vote was 79.57 per cent in 1975 election.

Mrs. Byrne said last night would show confrontation and try to work with the democratic machine, which primary campaign the from destroy.

In recent weeks she has been her attacks on the hierarchy which Mayor Daley pulled into the most powerful city political organisations, United States.

Bhutto: 'Poet, revolutionary'

RAWALPINDI, April 4 (R) -- After a brilliant political career that at one point saw him hailed as the saviour of his country, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who was hanged today at the age of 51, spent his last year languishing in a death cell.

During this time, the man who set out with zeal and confidence in 1971 to restore his country after a disastrous war with India, presented an increasingly pitiful figure as his friends and family fought in vain against the military regime that had ousted him as premier.



In December 1978, in his first public appearance nine months after he had been sentenced to death for ordering the assassination of a political opponent, he was tired and tearful as he pleaded for his life.

Mr. Bhutto, who ruled Pakistan for five years before he was overthrown on July 5, 1977, also complained of dizziness and the court ordered an adjournment because of his fatigue.

He said he had not seen sunshine for 90 days and had been confined to a death cell measuring two by three metres.

Throughout his turbulent career, Mr. Bhutto was such a mass of contradictions that, even in the agony of his final months, there were few things about him on which Pakistanis could agree.

As one of the Supreme Court judges who considered -- and rejected -- his appeal commented: "Whichever way we decide we are bound to split the country."

From his death cell in Lahore jail, Mr. Bhutto wrote his own epitaph: "A poet and a revolutionary -- that is what I have been all these years and that is how I shall remain until the last breath is gone from my body."

But to Pakistan's military rulers, the former prime minister was a corrupt megalomaniac who would stop at nothing to strengthen his power.

After their takeover, they tried to discredit Mr. Bhutto's years in power, accusing him of everything from rigging elections and undermining the judiciary to evading taxes on his air conditioners.

He was arrested 17 months ago and charged with ordering a 1974 ambush on politician Ahmed Raza Kasuri. Mr. Kasuri, a vocal critic of Mr. Bhutto, escaped but his father, Nawab Mohammad Khan, was fatally wounded. He was tried and sentenced to death last March.

His conviction, and the rejection of subsequent appeals, left his fate in the hands of Pakistan's military ruler, General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, the man who overthrew him and whom he once referred to disdainfully as a "chocolate soldier."

The general, who appointed himself president last September, is a Moslem purist with a deep dislike for Mr. Bhutto and his flamboyant, Westernised ways.

He said often that, no matter what his feelings, the courts and not he would decide the fate of the former premier. But it was also obvious that, entrenched as the military appeared to be, they still saw Mr. Bhutto as a threat to their power.

To many Pakistanis, he remained a source of inspiration. An urbane landed aristocrat, he was the first Pakistani politician to speak directly to peasants and factory workers, making them feel that through him they had a choice in government.

His reputation as a man of the people caused considerable concern to the austere military regime. Often, during his days of power, he would take to the streets, rousing crowds of up to 100,000 to fever-pitch with wild, left-wing oratory.

He was also the best-known Pakistani politician abroad and appeals for clemency poured in before his death from many world leaders, including Pope John Paul II.

At the same time many people inside Pakistan, led by his wife Nusrat and daughter Benazir, fought for his life at home. But major demonstrations were headed off by the military regime and his supporters were often clapped under house, or other, arrest.

In many ways Mr. Bhutto's arrogance, which his followers saw as political daring, may have led to his death. He boycotted the trial at which his life was at stake, calling it "a handle for political exploitation."

In 1968 he showed similar daring, with more positive results, when he launched a campaign to topple the seemingly-impregnable army-backed government of the late Field Marshal Ayub Khan. Bhutto supporters stunned the nation by marching in the streets against their stern, high-ro-

unquestioned leader, Mr. Ayub, under whom Bhutto had served as foreign minister, for power the next year.

He handed over power to Army Chief G. Yahya Khan under whose stewardship Pakistan lost the 1971 war with India and its eastern vice seceded to become Bangladesh.

Only then did Mr. Bhutto's turn come. I won army-supervised elections in West Pakistan, and in the shambles of military defeat, G. Yahya abdicated in his favour.

Mr. Bhutto, as president until 1973 and premier, restored national morale wrote constitution and steamrollered in reforms. Major industries were nationalised, the economic power of what were known as "22 families" was diminished. He impounded the passports of many of the aristocratic families, said his critics, methods he used to control divisive groups which threatened to tear Pakistan apart. He poured in 30,000 troops to quell an Baluchistan, Poonchee and banded the N. Awami Party, his main opposition.

A crisis erupted in 1977 when other opponents accused his People's Party of rigging an election. This time Mr. Bhutto was on the losing end of a Pakistani street violence.

After 350 people died in weeks of rioting was army intervention, a coup, and Mr. Bhutto was ousted.

The Bhutto family, which was large and aristocratic, were descendants of the Raj aristocratic warrior caste. The family was the Muslim elite.

Mr. Bhutto has said his concern for the common man owes much to his mother, who "feeling for the poor" which was common to him.

Sent to the West to study, the young proved a brilliant scholar, earning a degree from the University of California at Berkeley, Oxford.

Mr. Bhutto's death was a blow to the military regime, which had seen him as a threat to their power. But it was also obvious that, entrenched as the military appeared to be, they still saw Mr. Bhutto as a threat to their power.

To many Pakistanis, he remained a source of inspiration. An urbane landed aristocrat, he was the first Pakistani politician to speak directly to peasants and factory workers, making them feel that through him they had a choice in government.

MOA: Next best thing to cash?

French suspicion of cheques paradoxically makes it an ideal testing-ground for electronic banking systems like MOA, now being tried out in the area between Lyons and the Swiss border.

By Jack Gee

BOURG-EN-BRESSE, France -- This French market town, more famous for succulent poultry than modern technology, has launched a venture which could soon make bank notes, cheques and even credit cards as old-fashioned as a half-crown.

Banque Regionale de l'Ain, a small private bank with a staff of only 600 and 50,000 accounts, has gone into partnership with the mighty American computer firm IBM to give its customers a taste of shopping for the 1980s.

If you are a bank client, like Marie Caillet, a Bourg housewife, housekeeping revolves around a white and blue plastic card. The card, whose technical name is Multi Automatic Operator, is more popularly known by its initials "MOA". This rhymes with "moi", the French for "me", which the bank says helps customers to establish a personal

relationship with their "open sesame".

At the local supermarket, Madame Caillet stacks her groceries into her shopping bag, makes her way to the cash desk and produces MOA. The cashier slips the card into a point-of-sale terminal which is linked with the bank's central computer in the suburbs of Bourg.

The computer immediately flashes a row of figures onto the terminal's display screen to indicate whether Madame Caillet's account is in credit. The customer then types out a secret code number on a keyboard to enable the computer to identify her account.

This gives the cashier the green light to debit money from Madame Caillet's account and credit it to the shop's. The terminal produces a voucher which represents a receipt from the shop and a debit advice from the bank. It's all over within a minute.

Mr. Michel Lenoir, deputy general manager of the bank, told me that after only one month in operation, the experiment is already a success. "Bankers from all over the world are intrigued that a small financial institution like ours should be making such a major breakthrough... It will take them time to catch up. We began working on this project with IBM three years ago, and we are not going to stop where we are."

Banque Regionale de l'Ain's territory covers a farming area from Lyons to the Swiss border at Geneva. It manages 60 per cent of the accounts in the towns, while Credit Agricole, the farmers' bank, whose deposits are the world's third biggest, has carved out the same share in the countryside.

So far 92 shops and petrol stations have been equipped with MOA terminals, with a target of 250 for this summer. The MOA card has been issued to a third of the bank's customers. It will be in the hands of half of them by the end of the year.

The bank has spent six million francs in direct investment in MOA, with an equal amount going into salaries, training of staff and research. Mr. Lenoir says: "All the people working on the project have come from our bank. We have not recruited anybody from the computer industry."

It costs the bank only 50 centimes to handle a payment via MOA compared with five francs

for clearing a cheque. Customer resistance has been negligible. Madame Caillet told me: "I use MOA for all my shopping, except for clothes. Like many French women, I prefer to pay for these in cash and by instalments. That way my husband does not know I'm buying my dresses out of the housekeeping money."

Bank management has ambitious plans for MOA. Customers can already use the card at its public cash-points to make transfers between accounts in their own names. Soon they will be able to make payments to other account-holders and type out appointments, out of banking hours, with bank staff.

So far similar terminals in the United States are used only to ask a computer whether a cheque submitted to a supermarket is going to bounce.

Mr. Lenoir says: "The cheque was a latecomer to France, and it could vanish in the foreseeable future. Cheques only gained grudging recognition here when the government began using them to pay civil servants' salaries 15 years ago. This moved Frenchmen's nest-eggs out from under their mattresses into bank accounts."

But "no cheques" signs are still a regular sight in restaurants, and shopkeepers often refuse to take them for sums below 50 or even 100 francs.

The French Government, which is subsidising a massive "computer plan" to make the country computer-conscious, is watching the local experiment around Bourg with interest. But it is reluctant to encourage a project based on American technology.

The government also has its eyes on a magnetic card developed by the French Innovatron firm in partnership with IBM's French rival, CII-Honeywell Bull. Unlike MOA, which is "on line" to the computer, Innovatron is "off line", with its own built-in circuits and a memory which can be loaded with a sum of money credited from the holder's account by the bank.

The Innovatron card's cash load is reduced at each point-of-sale terminal. When it is empty, it is returned to the bank for replenishment.

American Express have shown interest in adopting Innovatron, and Texas Instruments say they might manufacture it. But French officials seem in no hurry, and state-owned banks have not yet tested it.

An Innovatron executive said glumly: "It looks as if our card will have to prove itself across the Atlantic before French industry is convinced that it is worthwhile."

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